Sl.No.	Name of the Centre	Name of District
38.	Nandyal	Kurnool
39.	Nellore	Nellore
40.	Nirmal	Adilabad
41.	Nizamabad	Nizamabad
42.	Ongole	Prakash
43.	Ordnance Factory	Medak
44.	Parkal	Warangal
45.	Palamner	Chittoor
46.	Peddapalli	Karimnagar
47.	Prashanilayam	Anantapur
48.	Proddatur	Cuddapah
49.	Pulivendula	Cuddapah
50.	Rajahmundry	East Godavari
51.	Rajampet	Cuddapah
52.	Sangareddy	Medak
53.	Siddipet	Medak
54.	Srikalahasti	Chittoor
55.	Sinjadcheria ho	Mahabubnagar
56.	Suryapet	Nalgonda
57.	Tanuku	West Godavari
58.	Tenali	Guntur
59.	Wanaparthy	Mahabubnagar
60.	Warangal	Warangal
61.	Zaheerabad	Medak

Business Development Directories

1841. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve its activities through Business Development Directories;

(b) whether any new product has been launched by the Business Development Directory;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or proposed to take to rectify the deficiencies in Speed Post service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Business Development Directorate manages and markets premium products including Speed Post, Business Post, Express Parcel Post, Media Post, Satellite Post, Retail Post, Greetings Post, Data Post etc. Through Business Development Directorate, the Department earned Rs. 282 crores in 2000-2001.

(b) and (c) During 2000-2001, three new products viz. Greetings Post, Data Post and Speed Post Passport Service were launched by Business Development Directorate:

Greeting Post

The Department launched this novel and unique product Greetings Post in October 2000. It provides exclusive greeting cards with pre-paid envelopes to the customers, thus enabling them to have convenience and novelty Greeting cards are brought out for festive occasions like Diwali, Puja, Christmas, New Year, Pongal etc. Further, cards are also issued for special events like birthday, anniversary etc.

Data Post

Data Post collects and manages the database of addresses of the households and businesses throughout India. Corporates, specially the direct marketers can be benefited by having select addresses for direct marketing. In addition, Data Post will enable the Department to have the database of the national change of addresses of the customers and this will help the Department to deliver the letters to the customers at the correct address. Data Post has been launched in Bangalore and Hyderabad as a pilot project.

Speed Post Passport Service

Department of Posts, in partnership with Ministry of External Affairs launched Speed Post Passport Service on 5th March 2001. The primary objective of Speed Post Passport Service is to decentralize the acceptance of passport application forms at Speed Post Centres across the country. Under Speed Post Passport Service Passport application forms are accepted at select Speed Post offices, on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs.

(d) The Department has taken a number of steps to strengthen the Speed Post Service. The network of Speed Post Centres has been extended to 120 towns in the national network and more than 500 stations in the State level network. The tariff for Speed Post has also been restructured on commercial principles to increase market share. To enhance the satisfaction of the customers, delivery system has been restructured by creating nodal offices with dedicated delivery staff and special recognition has been given to the bulk consumers as per market practice. In addition, all the 120 Speed Post Centres have been computerized. On-line tracking system has been developed for the consumers to track the Speed Post consignments through internet. Free pick up service facilities from the customer's premises have also been introduced to increase the market share.

VPT in the Country

1842. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Public Telephone (VPT) installed during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, State-wise;

(b) the budget allocation made for each State for the above purpose during the above period; and

(c) the details of Government's programmes in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Details of VPTs provided during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 as on 31.10.2001 by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Private Service Operators are given in Statement-I and Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) Budget allocation made during the last three years is given in Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) BSNL plans to provide telecom facility in the remaining villages by 2002 with the joint efforts of Private Basic Service Operators (PBSOs) and subject to availability of funds and equipment.